



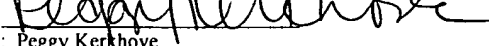
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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KADOWAKI, et al. Examiner M. Edun
Serial No.: 10/646,602 Group Art: 2627
Filed: August 22, 2003 Docket: 10873.1286US01
Confirmation No.: 9811 Notice of Allow Date: n/a
Due Date: n/a
Title: OPTICAL PICK-UP HEAD, OPTICAL INFORMATION
APPARATUS, AND OPTICAL INFORMATION REPRODUCING
METHOD

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 29, 007.

By: 
Name: Peggy Kerthove

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

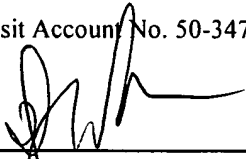
Sir:

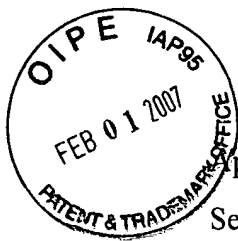
The following papers are transmitted herewith:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 5 references, copy of a Partial European Search Report
- ☒ Check in the amount of \$180 to cover the IDS filing fee
- ☒ Return Postcard

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3478. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Hamre, Schumann, Mueller & Larson, P.C.
P.O. Box 2902 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0902
612.455-3800

By: 
Name: Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No.: 30,300
Initials: DPM/pjk



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KADOWAKI, et al. Examiner: M. Edun
Serial No.: 10/646602 Group Art Unit: 2627
Filed: August 22, 2003 Docket: 10873.1286US01
Title: OPTICAL PICK-UP HEAD, OPTICAL INFORMATION APPARATUS,
AND OPTICAL INFORMATION REPRODUCING METHOD

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 29, 2007.

By:

Name: Peggy Kerkhova

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. The references were recently cited in a Partial European Search Report mailed December 27, 2006. A copy of the search report is enclosed. US 6,185,167, which is cited in the search report, was previously cited by the Applicant in an IDS filed November 3, 2003. Copies of any foreign patent documents or "Other Documents" are enclosed.

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97, this statement is being filed (CHECK ONE):

- ☐ (1) within three (3) months of the Filing Date, before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114; or
- ☐ (2) after the period defined in (1) but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, and
- ☐ the requisite Statement is below, OR
- ☐ the requisite fee of \$180.00 under Rule 1.17(p) is included herein, or
- ☒ (3) after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance but on or before the payment of the Issue Fee, AND the requisite Statement is below AND the requisite fee of \$180.00 under Rule 1.17(p) is included herein.

STATEMENT

Applicants hereby state that:

- ☒ Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application or by the USPTO in a related application not more than three months prior to the filing date of the Information Disclosure Statement

- ☒ If this box is checked, Applicant provides the following:

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

- ☐ The Examiner is hereby advised of the following co-pending U.S. applications. A copy of each U.S. patent application publication (if published) or application (if not published) is enclosed.

Application No.

Filing Date

Group

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

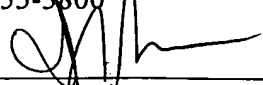
FEE AUTHORIZATION

Should any fee associated with the submission of this paper not be attached hereto as a check, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the missing fee to our Deposit Account, No. 50-3478. Any overpayments should be credited to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER &
LARSON, P.C.
P.O. Box 2902-0902
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0902
(612) 455-3800

Dated: January 29, 2007

By: 
Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/pjk

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number:

10873.1286US01

Application Number:

10/646,602

Applicant: KADOWAKI, et al.

Filing Date: August 22, 2003

Group Art Unit: 2627

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	99/18466	April, 1999	WIPO				
	2000-331355	November, 2000	Japan			Abstract	
	2000-331356	November, 2000	Japan			Abstract	
	1 170 739	January, 2002	EPO				
	1 172 807	January, 2002	EPO				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.